

Debs Column

Youth and the Church

College and university students, and more, representing all the various denominations, who held their annual conference recently at Evanston, Illinois, gave most encouraging evidence of their being wide-awake to the meaning of modern capitalism, especially in relation to war and its innumerable horrors and atrocities. These alert and aspiring young people were little concerned about creeds and dogmas. They devoted little time or thought to institutionalism but gave themselves up wholly to the discussion of the living economic, political, social and cultural issues of the age. It is true that our own condition since the war has been precarious and that funds have been sent in by our party and in the pockets of our members, but we can and we must share our substance, meager as it is, with the victims of that monstrous monopoly which has bowels of brass, a heart of granite, and no conscience at all.

The strikers in the anthracite have been making a brave fight under desperate conditions during the last four months. The owners of the mines, who rule with the iron heel, are determined to starve their slaves into submission and destroy their union or reduce it to impotence.

For nearly three-quarters of a century the miners in the anthracite have been striking, oftentimes with their families verging on starvation, but their condition remains substantially the same.

It is appalling to think of the utter servile state, not only of the miners, but of the people generally in the domain of King Anthracite. I have been there often enough to know to what extent the people have been bullied, browbeaten and intimidated in an attempt to reduce them to servile slavery by that vampire of the nether regions.

There are few exceptions to this rule and these for good and sufficient reasons are in favor with the industrial tyrants who hold the anthracite region in their greedy and pitiless tentacles. The common herd go about in rags, shoes and tails in whips. Business men, professional men, bankers, lawyers, preachers, teachers, all are anthracite underlings. To even whisper against the brutal bosses is to commit suicide. Of course, the American Legion, the KKK, the Kiwanis, the Rotarians, etc., are all only collared by anthracite and unflinchingly loyal to their Moloch Master.

It is to be hoped that the miners now striking and starving in that region will at last realize that voting the Republican ticket, or the Democratic ticket either, for that matter, will keep them exactly where they are.

There is but one remedy under the sun for the coal diggers in the anthracite as well as in the bituminous regions, and that is the ownership of the mines by the people and the mining of coal for the benefit of the people, and until that change is made miners will strike and they and their families will suffer while their masters wax fat and insolent in their misery and starvation.

Hoping the readers of the Appeal will respond as liberally as their means will allow to provide food and clothing for the suffering victims of Anthracite, the richest mining region in the world, I am.

Yours fraternally,

EUGENE V. DEBS.

British Move to Own Mines Points Way Here

Two events of tremendous importance in England point to the inevitable coal situation developing in all countries and almost reached in the United States, and the inevitable remedy, which America sooner or later must adopt. A news dispatch from London says:

"From ministerial sources the Daily Mail learns that the members of the coal commission, now sitting to inquire into the coal industry, are virtually unanimous in favor of the state's acquiring the ownership of the mining rights in Great Britain."

The particularly significant phase of this development is that the British coal commission is the commission of a reactionary government and is dominated by reactionary members heretofore bitterly opposed to public ownership of the coal mines. Behind their bitter opposition was the opposition of the coal operators determined not to yield an inch in the face of the growing nation-wide British demand for public ownership.

A Significant Change
The British coal commission prior to the present one reported against public ownership. This about face could not have happened except by pressure of virtual necessity. PRIVATE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF COAL MINING HAS PROKEN DOWN AND FAILED TO SUCH AN EXTENT IN GREAT BRITAIN THAT REACTIONARY COAL COMMISSION IS FORCED TO REPORT FOR NATIONALIZATION OR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

Right on top of this striking development comes another news dispatch, of almost equal importance. John Steele, a London correspondent for American capitalist newspapers, reports from London that,

"The miners' plan for saving the coal industry was presented to the coal commission today by R. H. Tawney, famous economist, who is one of the leaders of the Labor Party. It is in one word, nationalization, but Mr. Tawney presented an elaborate scheme for the reorganization of the whole British power production.

"The coal industry, he said, would become one unit for the production of fuel, manufacturing electrical energy, coke, smokeless fuel, gas, oil and other by-products, and should be nationally owned.

Plans for Acquiring Mines
"Mr. Tawney advocated the issue of coal industry bonds for the purpose of buying out the owners, and said the royalties also should be the property of the nation.

"Mr. Tawney proposed the setting up of four bodies to manage the national industries. The first would be a power and transport commission consisting of six experts to manage the electrical development and to supply cheap power on a big scale. The second would be a national coal and power production council, which he compared with a board of directors, consisting of twelve chosen for their expert knowledge of the various branches of business. Their duty would be to secure the most efficient methods of producing and consuming coal. The third would be a consumers' council, representing all the consuming interests, to consider transport and distribution and aid in fixing wages. The fourth would be a coal export commission to handle the export trade."

Swinging to Labor Plans

An interesting phase of this situation is that while the capitalists are being forced by necessity to accept public ownership as inevitable, Labor's plans of democratic public ownership take the front of the stage, backed by the powerful British Labor Party, a Socialist organization, second in strength among the political parties of Great Britain and rapidly becoming first.

Some Developments in America
While these things were happening in England, America, forced by the obdurate position of the coal combine in refusing to reach any agreement with the United Mine Workers' Union, to face a most alarming situation in the dead of winter, is moving both state and nationally in the direction of public control and ownership. On January 13 the Pennsylvania legislature met in extra session to consider the coal situation and faced as its special work the consideration of measures designed to place the anthracite coal industry under state control represented in the public service commission of Pennsylvania. At the same time, a bill was being introduced by Representative Boylan of New York in the lower branch of the national legislature in Washington giving the President power to take over and operate the anthracite mines during emergency periods.

heartily congratulate our socialist contemporary upon the high degree of excellence it has achieved and wish it increasing power and success in the great educational service it is rendering the socialist and labor movement.

Berger for Coal Seizure
Washington, D. C., Jan. 17.—Convinced, he says, that the present deadlock between anthracite operators and striking miners can only result in a truce which will be broken at the first

opportunity, Rep. Victor Berger (Soc. Wks.) will introduce resolutions in the house tomorrow proposing seizure and operation of the mines by the government.

The coal industry, Mr. Berger asserted tonight, is ripe for nationalization and the immediate choice is nationalization with definite safeguards against bureaucratic management or chaos. At present, he contends, the industry is controlled by twenty-five men, who have coal consumers and the public generally at their mercy.

War Dictator Proposed for America In Capper-Johnson Military Bill

Entered as Second-Class Matter, January 7, 1926, at the Post Office at Chicago, Ill., Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

CHICAGO, JANUARY 23, 1926.

Price Five Cents

Under the guise of drafting wealth as well as men during time of war, a very popular proposal with the majority of Americans, the stage is being set to put through one of the most sinister and dangerous pieces of legislation that this country has ever faced.

The so-called Capper-Johnson bill proposes to clothe the President of the United States, the War Department and the military staff with powers in the event of war, never contemplated before under the American theory of government, and which would result in a dictatorship as highly centralized in one or a few persons as the despotism of Mussolini.

The Capper-Johnson bill provides that in the event of war the President is authorized to call out such portion of the unorganized militia as he sees fit without exemptions on account of industrial occupation.

Everybody to Be Drafted

Inasmuch as the unorganized militia as now constituted by law consists of all able-bodied male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, the President would have power to draft practically all the able-bodied male citizens capable of fighting without any specific act of Congress.

This extraordinary measure further provides that the President shall be empowered to "determine and proclaim the material resources, INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES over which government control is necessary to successful termination of such emergency and such control shall be exercised by him through agencies then existing OR WHICH HE MAY CREATE FOR SUCH PURPOSES."

In other words, the President would have power to establish his direct dictatorial control over such INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS as labor unions and co-operatives, and such SERVICES as employed labor in any capacity and would be clothed with the legal power to control such organizations or services of producers through any agencies he might choose to create.

Labor Would Be Enslaved

LABOR WOULD CEASE TO EXIST AS A FREE OR SELF-GOVERNING FACTOR THE MOMENT WAR WAS DECLARED, IF THE PRESIDENT SO CHOSE.

The President is further authorized "to take such steps as may be necessary TO STABILIZE PRICES OF SERVICES and of all commodities declared to be essential, WHETHER SUCH SERVICES OR COMMODITIES ARE REQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT OR BY THE CIVILIAN POPULATION."

This means that in case of war the President COULD DETERMINE WHATEVER WAGES LABOR SHOULD RECEIVE IN ANY EMPLOYMENT ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Nothing but the pretense that capital, under this bill, is to receive the same kind of treatment as labor—is to be drafted, commandeered, and used,

like labor, to win the war—would have permitted this atrocious measure to get as far as it has.

Exploiting Socialist Slogans

A PROPAGANDA FIRST ADVOCATED BY THE SOCIALISTS AND LATER TAKEN UP AND PUSHED BY VARIOUS OTHER PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS—THE DRAFTING OF WEALTH IN TIME OF WAR—is BEING DELIBERATELY EXPLOITED TO BRING ABOUT A MILITARY ENACTMENT THAT MIGHT EASILY MEAN THE END OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

Even now, before the measure has been voted on, the partiality of a capitalist government toward wealth in contrast to labor is beginning to crop out. Arthur Sears Heising writes from Washington for the capitalist papers:

Soft Toward Capital

"The bill is the outgrowth of the demand by the late President Harding in his inauguration address for legislation to conscript wealth as well as men in time of war. . . . The more the matter was studied, however, the more it became apparent that what was desired is NOT THE CONSCRIPTION OF WEALTH, NOT THE TAKING OF PROPERTY, but the control of resources by the government to insure their most effective use in the war effort without profiteering by the individual. HENCE THE TERM 'DRAFTING MATERIAL WEALTH EMPLOYED IN AN EARLIER BILL WAS DROPPED AND 'CONTROL' SUBSTITUTED.'

Any one with the faintest knowledge of the operations of governments under capitalism can visualize how a capitalistic presidential tool invested with the powers of an absolute dictator in time of war would treat labor in comparison with capital.

The Danger of the Hour

The danger of the hour throughout the world is the present tendency of capitalist government to use crises or emergencies to set up dictatorships. Six dictatorships have been set up in this way throughout the world in the last few years. None of these have received ALL HAVE DESTROYED DEMOCRACY AND ENSLAVED THE WORKERS. THEY ARE BANDING TOGETHER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD TO CRUSH LABOR. WAR HAS BECOME THE UNIVERSAL EXCUSE TO ESTABLISH DICTATORSHIPS, AND EVEN AN UNIMPORTANT WAR—A WAR WITH LITTLE, WEAK MEXICO, MIGHT BE USED AS AN EXCUSE BY ORGANIZED WEALTH TO CENTRALIZE THE MILITARY POWER IN ITS HANDS AND MAKE IT DICTATORSHIP PERMANENT.

IN DEADLY FEAR OF SOCIALISM, OF INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY, THE IRON HEEL IS DESCENDING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. LET US PREPARE TO PREVENT THIS CATASTROPHE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. READ GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK'S ARTICLE ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS PAGE AND LEARN A LESSON FROM HISTORY.

Vast Growth of Socialism Among American Churches Alarms Writer

The tremendous growth of Socialism among the churches of America brought strikingly to public notice by the recent Inter-denominational Student Conference of the Church and the Social Order at Evanston, Illinois, has thoroughly alarmed Margaret C. Robinson, a writer for capitalism, who presents many facts regarding this growth in the January 9 number of The Dearborn Independent, Henry Ford's magazine, in an article entitled "American Pupils Captured by Radicals."

While this article is bitterly hostile and unfair and is palpably an attempt to inflame the public against Socialism, the statements made concerning the extent to which Socialist ideas have spread among the clergy of many denominations in recent years are most interesting.

"Socialism in the churches," says this writer, "has grown with amazing rapidity in recent years. A few energetic radicals early entrenched themselves in leading theological seminaries, where their influence on the students has been felt later in hundreds of churches throughout the country."

Capitalists Quit Churches

After this admission, the writer begins to spill poison. She continues:

"Many congregations have grown restless under the radical preaching to which they are forced to listen unless they cut themselves loose from church affiliations. A surprising number of persons, both men and women, of fine character and intellect, have told me that they have stopped going to church because they could not accept Socialism in the pulpit."

After illustrating this horrible example of capitalists quitting their churches rather than listen to Socialism, the writer draws this distinction:

"Many of these clergymen claim to be Socialists, but not Communists, not realizing that the two are identical in aim."

She avoids explaining the aim. Continuing the account of the spread of Socialism in the churches, she says:

"Few persons realize how far this propaganda has spread, not only in the churches, but in the Y. W. C. A., the Y. M. C. A. and other supposedly religious organizations."

She then quotes a report written by Rev. A. L. Byron Curtis, national secretary of the Church Socialist League, which is made up of members of the Episcopal church, as follows:

Christian Socialist Fellowship

"The distinct advance of Socialist sentiment and movement among the church people of America was coincident with the spread of Socialism be-

yond the groups of the foreign-born. At the national convention of the Socialist party in Chicago in 1912, there were among the regular delegates a number of clergy and lay officials of different churches. Since that date two Christian Socialist organizations have been formed and are now very active, with the avowed purpose of extending the principles of Socialism among the church people of America. The first and largest of these is the Christian Socialist Fellowship, an interdenominational organization with its headquarters in Chicago. It was organized in Louisville, Kentucky, in June, 1909. It has more than fifty branches and a large proportion of its members are allied with the Socialist movement and Party. It holds annual and frequent district conferences. Through its general office and local centers Socialist sermons and lectures have been delivered in thousands of churches. Millions of copies of the official paper of the Fellowship have been circulated to preachers, teachers and social workers. Churches and Y. M. C. A. and colleges are opened to the message of Socialism as put forth by the Fellowship.

Church Socialist League

"In 1911 the Church Socialist League in America was organized by a few clergy and lay people in the Episcopal church. For some years there had been a strong and very prominent Socialist league in England. In spite of the conservatism of the Episcopal church and its members, the church has officially adopted radical and even revolutionary resolutions, and the influence of the Church Socialist League is discernible as giving color to them. A considerable share of the clergy are infected with Socialism. With but 6,000 clergymen, several hundred are avowed Socialists and nearly one hundred are members of the Socialist Party. The League is able to present the parallel demands of militant Socialism to this communion as no other society can. Rev. A. L. Byron Curtis is the national secretary and the official organ is a quarterly, The Social Preparation, the official address of both being Utica, New York."

The activity of these organizations and others, such as the League for Industrial Democracy, no doubt account for the overwhelming endorsement of the position of Socialists toward the existing social order by 900 students representing twenty Christian denominations from 176 colleges throughout the United States at Evanston. THE FINEST IDEALISM AND HIGHEST THOUGHT AMONG TRULY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE IN AMERICA IS AT LAST IN NATION-WIDE REVOLT AGAINST THE MORALLY AND SPIRITUALLY DEGRADING AND DESTRUCTIVE CAPITALIST SYSTEM.

Paytriotic Ex-Governor, Jailed for Swindling, May Be Pardoned

The following opening paragraph appears in an extended press dispatch from Washington in regard to the case of Warren T. McCray of Indiana, now at Atlanta:

"Application of former Governor Warren T. McCray of Indiana for executive clemency was reported tonight to have received favorable consideration from the Department of Justice, and President Coolidge has initiated an investigation into the prisoner's health to determine whether early release from Atlanta federal penitentiary is warranted."

Four short years ago Warren T. McCray was Governor of Indiana while the writer of this article was an imprisoned convict in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta.

It was at this time that Governor McCray was glorified as the great American patriot. In addressing a meeting of the American Legion at Indianapolis, the capital of the state, he said:

"It is a matter of shame to me as Governor and a disgrace to the state that the one arch-traitor in America has his home in Indiana."

The patriotic Governor had reference of course to the convicted traitor, Debs.

Governor Incites Mob

A motion was then made that when the state convention of the Legion met at Terre Haute a few weeks later, the members of the Legion march in a body past the home of Debs and shout "Traitor!"

The motion was carried with a hurrah and Governor McCray arose to say that he heartily commended the action and that it was fitting and proper that the American Legion should administer such a rebuke and teach the "traitor" a lesson he would never forget, and that he himself would lead the marching patriots.

In a word, Governor McCray, now a convicted robber, who was sworn to uphold the law and to preserve order, deliberately incited the soldiers at the state capital to mob and infernally assault and possibly lynch Debs who had been released from prison against the violent protest of McCray and his Legion of lackeys.

Lauded as a Patriot

When the papers reported Governor McCray's incendiary speech inciting to lawlessness and crime, the writer wrote him a letter asking if he had been correctly quoted and the answer was in the affirmative.

For this supremely heroic speech Governor McCray was lauded as a great American patriot, an inspiring example

Hail to the Chief!
By L. O. McFadden
The Appeal before McFadden was discussed.
After Debs was released from prison,
he told the truth he had a long time.
He is the ruler of Hoolie-dom
"green bay tree," he flourishes in crime.

He is a landlord, one hundred percent, a landlord, true to his type, and on interest, profit and loss.

He is a fellow banker he started up.

Published statement, the man said,
"the man thief had not yet
had the time to grieve,
it is a sin for a bourgeois
to do it." Debs was a dangerous
man in the American Legion
and care!

He relishes penitentiary

Brain-Drops

By GLEN CARRY

SMALL
MIDDLE-CLASS
MAN AT HIS FEET,
A BENEFACTOR,
BRED EVERYTHING
BY HIS FAMILY'S HELP,
POSSIBLY PRODUCE
FOR LONG DAYS
THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE YEAR;
FAIRLY CONSCIOUS
MAKING IT FROM ME,
GIVING ME
EVERYTHING BEST
BY HIMSELF.
A SMALL VOW TO YOU
TO STAND BY JOIN
THE POOL,
A MURDERER REDUCE YOU
TO SAME BEGGARS
AS NOW MINE."

RIGHT AT ITS INCEPTION,
NOT LESS FOR MORE,
A BOLD
LEAST
THE POST.

NOT TO SEE
SOCIETY COME
AND FIND
UNFAIR PROFIT
SEIZING THE PEACE
AND THE PROBLEMS.

CAPITALISM SAYS
"WORKERS OBEY ME
I SHALL NOT WANT."
SOCIALISM SAYS
"WORKERS AWAKENED,
CULTURE WILL PERISH."
WHAT IT SAYS IS THAT IS WHY
CAPITALIST NEWSPAPERS
WILL PROVE TO BE
EXCELLENT BRAIN SCRABBLERS.

THE ASYLUMS DO NOT HOUSE
ALL HOME, RESPECT
THE SPECULATORS
WHO ARE RICH
IN OTHERS' TOL.

WEALTHY ARE
POVERTY'S IDOL
GREED OP-OPES,
WEALTH EXPANDS,
PROFITS ACCRUE.

WE KEEP IT SECRET—
NEAREST NEIGHBOR'S
NEST NUMBER
WE ARE SATISFIED
FOR OTHERS,
TAKE OTHERS RICH,
KEEPING HIMSELF P.
NOT MAKE THAT KNOWN
LAWYER COMMISSIONER.

PROMOTING
OWN EMANCIPATION,
WE ARE HELPFUL—
AN ORGANIZATION
OF FELLOW-WORKERS;
WE'RE READY
TO WORK WITH THOSE
WHO PROMOTE
WELL OF EVERYBODY.

Dynamite
Effects are like dynamite. They
rouse their hopes and their vision forward to
brighter days. Now here is a
intellectual dynamite in the
facts, dread and detested
industrial plunderers of the
world.

Ontario, Canada, has developed
a magnificent hydroelectric
power system.

The people of Ontario col-
laborate in this splendid industrial

effort. Everybodys doing it" in
that is, using electricity.

farmers are making wide-
use of the electric supply.

—A year, or 25 cents a day, an
farmer may have what is

a single phase motor of 3 horse-
power for lighting, electric
heating, irons, toasters and
conveniences; for \$205 a year,

40 cents a day, he may have a 10 horse-
power motor, sufficient for general
use, and equal to the labor
of 120 men.

—The whole hydro-electric
power system of Ontario "is paying
itself and is not costing the tax-
payer a single cent. The rates are so

high that the earnings are
used to pay all costs of operation,
and on the capital account, sink-
fund, depreciation, and taxes."

—The Hydro-Electric Power
Commission reported in its March-
1 Bulletin, 1922, page 96, thus:

"There has never been a single cent
collected in taxes of any municipality
to be used in connection with the op-
eration of any Hydro-Electric Utility."

Sixth—All thru the United States
there is a grand concert of shameless
lying about the Ontario Hydro-Elec-
tric enterprise. You see the actual
facts interfere with the plans and pur-
poses of the plunderers.

Young People's Department

National Office
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOC. LEAGUE
22 Townsend St., Pittsburgh, Penn.
Aureo J. Parker, Nat. Director.

For Our Italian Comrades

The International of Socialist Youth Executive Committee is sending an appeal to all the affiliated youth organizations for help to the Italian Young People's Socialist League in its terrible struggle against the Mussolini terrorism. The indefatigable and effective work accomplished by the young comrades for the international socialist movement and their struggle to regain the political freedom of Italy has long since aroused the wrath of the Fascists. The splendid organization was forced to dissolution by the continued chicanery, and the final blow effected by the suppression of the official organ "Liberta."

Through these measures the Socialist Youth organization can no longer carry on its activities publicly, and the conduct of the local groups is very hazardous.

Realizing the power of the organization in developing the coming generations Mussolini is thus endeavoring to stifle every vestige of Socialism in Italy along with any sentiment of freedom that may be seen in the people.

But the Italian organization has not acknowledged death, nor has it any intention of doing so. They have lifted their flag higher and will fight until the ranks of Fascism are broken asunder, and the socialist movement carries the torch of freedom in Italy. Like the murder of Matteotti, any reactionary move will wreck further the support of Mussolini.

The International of Socialist Youth has already pledged the support of organized socialist youth in their hard struggle against odds. They now appeal to the various youth organizations for both moral and financial aid. Comrades, both young and old, of the socialist movement, our help is required to save the hope of Italy from this modern imperialism. Send your donations to the Young People's Department of the Socialist Party, at above address, as soon as you possibly can so that they may be sent to the comrades in need at this critical time.

The struggle of the Italian socialist youth is a struggle for democracy and socialism of international importance. It therefore becomes our struggle as well. The Italian comrades have shown their loyalty, when in 1923 they gave every possible aid to the German Youth organization, though their own organization was battling for its very existence.

New England District Committee

On January 1st the District Executive Committee of the Y. P. S. L. of New England held its quarterly meeting in Boston. Secretary Syrjala's report for the previous quarter indicates a very encouraging outlook for the current year. Receipts on memberships are beginning to climb again. Important work of organization is now under way in several new localities, while the Socialist Party branches throughout the district are considering possibilities in their respective towns and cities.

The committee decided to hold the 1926 District convention on April 3rd and 4th in Gardner, Mass. Arrangements were made for the declamation contest which in recent years has become an annual event in connection with the convention. An agenda committee was formed, consisting of Adamson of Gardner, Manning of Boston, and Syrjala the district secretary.

As the coming convention will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the New England District, Y. P. S. L., the committee decided to publish an attractive quincentenary review, illustrating the activities and historical outline of the Yippees in this section. Savel Syrjala and A. J. Parker were selected as editors. The publication will be issued the last week of April.

The members of the committee, Kurko of Quincy, Levenberg of Boston, Lehtinen of Worcester, Suri of Fitchburg and Adamson of Gardner were all present.

With The Circles

Worcester, Mass. Y. P. S. L. Past experience should give the young comrades of Worcester good reason to make note of four important dates. The District of the Socialist Party together with the National Office of the Y. P. S. L. has arranged for August 1st lectures in Worcester as follows:

Friday evening February 5th.
Friday evening February 12th.
Friday evening February 19th.
Friday evening February 26th.

The meetings will be held in the Bay State House building, corner of Main and Exchange streets. (Entrance through the Bay State Hotel.)

St. Louis Y. P. S. L. For the past year the St. Louis circle has maintained the highest percentage of good standing membership. It may be advisable to cut down delegate expenses by arranging the next convention in St. Louis. (C) A word to the wise is sufficient.

Gardner Y. P. S. L. Sometime after the first of February a grand celebration will mark the close of an energetic membership campaign now being waged by two competitive teams, each having for its goal the enrollment of the greatest number of new members.

The duration of this novel drive is thirty days. The losing team is to tender a real banquet to the winning team and the new members. The circle hasn't far to go to top the hundred mark. It now runs most everything in Gardner, excepting the Chamber of Commerce.

Fitchburg Y. P. S. L. The Fitchburg circle, at first reluctant to announce the results it attained in the Appeal drive for subs., now admits that the Appeal committee of this circle turned in only 17 yearly subscriptions during the first two weeks.

Well, we'd like to know what's the matter with that?

They say America is becoming hated all over the world. The hatred comes solely because of American ex-
ploiters

The papers announce that "Britain will hold the trump at the February conference at Geneva." Of course she will. She has the financial and the military power, somewhat as a large timber wolf would have in a conference of poodles.

"A 900 per cent common stock dividend was recommended by the directors of the Central States Corporation, Inc., at the meeting of the New York Stock Exchange, Jan. 14, 1926. —Chicago Tribune, Jan. 14, 1926. —Why comment?"

Now, speaking of the rapidly increasing prosperity signs, "Loadings of revenue freight for the week ending Jan. 2, amounted to a decrease of 25,859 cars from the corresponding week one year ago."

Women's Department

Josephine Conger

"The working people," said a professional woman to the writer recently, "never know when they have enough."

"Look at these janitors. Why, I know a janitor in the Bank Building who owns an apartment house; and there is a scrub woman out our way who has money in the bank, and who sends her daughters to college; as for the plumbers and carpenters and the rest of that ilk—why, they are nothing but robbers. . . . And they cry for more. . . . Pretty soon these people will want to own the earth!"

"Yes," I agreed, "they might. . . . But what of it?"

"What of it?" My dear woman, are you crazy? Look at Russia. . . . Russia is a shining example of what the WORKING class will do when it gets in power."

She got quite excited about it, but I was glad she mentioned Russia. A lot of people do that. People who didn't know that Russia was on the map in the days of the czars now point with terrible finality to "what the working class" is doing to it now. This woman who should have known better, did that.

"Why get excited over Russia?" I asked. "We were discussing the great American working man—and woman—. . . . What has Russia to do with us?"

"At least in this matter of how her masses take care of her affairs." "Well, but the working class rules in Russia, and look at what it is doing."

"The working people, or the Russian masses," I explained, "are trying to get on their feet—trying to learn to walk to stand erect. For centuries they have been bound and gagged and staled to the ground. . . . What do you expect of them, trying to stand alone for the first time? Trying to think, trying desperately to work their way through the maze of ignorance and superstition that have been their lot for so long? . . . But the American working man—"

"I know," she interrupted, "the American working man—well, of course, he is different; has had more advantages, can at least read and write."

"And build," I supplemented. "He has done some tremendous buildings—of cities, roads, dams, railways, even of government in a way. . . . You must admit he knows how to do almost everything. . . . He ought to be able to take care of what he can build."

Well, yes, he should, she grudgingly agreed. And then her argument against the regime of the working class took on the stock phrase—it had never been done before, there would always be rich and poor, rulers and ruled, and, anyway, why not let them work alone?

Then my professional friend, who did not advocate the leadership of the working class, rose hastily and said she must go. "I have planned some work for myself at home," she said. "You know how it is with us women—at home or abroad, from rise to set of sun, our work is never done. And we don't get more than a bare living out of it, at that!"

She was out of the door. "Why don't you join the organization that is working for the betterment of people like yourself?" I cried as a parting shot.

"You are incorrigible," she called back, as she swung down the stairs out of sight.

Appeal Pellets

The Filling Station

LINCOLN PHIFER

Those Hold-Up Men

It happened that two motorists were waiting turn at the Filling Station, and, both dismounting, the New York and both approached the Nebraskan with a friendly. —

"Great stuff that Herbie Hoover put out about the European capitalists holding up Americans on rubber and other articles they control, isn't it?"

"Yep, great stuff."

"It's a game two can play at, you know. American dealers can agree on prices for things sold Europeans. Herbie will fix them all right."

"Yes, it is a game two can play at. But I am puzzled over the situation."

"In what way?"

"Well, American dealers have been holding up their own fellow Americans through combinations and fixed prices for years now and Herbie and the rest of the bunch at Washington don't seem to be able to do anything about it. I wonder why."

"Why—ur—eh?"

"That is what the last fellow said. Why doesn't Saint Calvyn the First bring down railroad rates to aid the American farmer?"

"What, what?"

"Why the American Appeal, that is what," and the Nebraskan handed him a copy of the most inspiring paper in America. "It will do you good to read it."

"This is an anarchist sheet, isn't it?"

"Oh, no. Most of the old party papers are anarchist sheets. This is not."

And the Nebraskan handed a copy of the paper to Jim, the Standard Sort. The latter glanced furtively at the office then stuck the paper carefully in his inside pocket.

"Thank you," he said. "Nothing like finding out."

Robbers

Appeal Table

Hooty the Owl swooped down on a patch of ground in the Green Forest, ever watching. Rabbit was running empty, lop. At the same time Ratty the Fox leaped from a covert near by. The two collided and Peter Rabbit escaped.

"Robber," shrieked Hooty the Owl.

"Robber," screamed Ratty the Fox.

"You find the duplicates of these animals in the capitalists of various nations grabbing for 'concessions' in

Turkey.

Where Grabbing Is Good

Appeal Parable

Two Capitalists were discussing the situation in Mexico.

"Isn't it an outrage," one of them remarked, "that the upstart president of Mexico insists that Mexicans must own at least 51 per cent of all oil and mineral lands exploited in that country?"

"Positively. But it is the law."

"To hell with the law. We already have all the public wealth in the United States, and how are we to expand if other nations adopt constitutions providing for such things?"

"Well, man, one can always hire adventurers to stir up a revolution or put a disturber out of the way. It is expensive, but we must rule, you know."

"Well, yes, he should, she grudgingly agreed. And then her argument against the regime of the working class took on the stock phrase—it had never been done before, there would always be rich and poor, rulers and ruled, and, anyway, why not let them work alone?

Then my professional friend, who did not advocate the leadership of the working class, rose hastily and said she must go. "I have planned some work for myself at home," she said. "You know how it is with us women—at home or abroad, from rise to set of sun, our work is never done. And we don't get more than a bare living out of it, at that!"

She was out of the door. "Why don't you join the organization that is working for the betterment of people like yourself?" I cried as a parting shot.

"You are incorrigible," she called back, as she swung down the stairs out of sight.

Appeal Pellets

By Lincoln Phifer

A lunch is like sunshine when it is not like moonshine.

The thick skins of the modern capitalists are a sure sign of a hard winter.

Now, what American bankers are backing the new dictator of Greece?

The banking combine denies that it is a monopoly. But you know that bread is high even when wheat is low.

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